

**NOTES | June 10, 2009**

**Technical Advisory Committee**

**Sonoma Valley Groundwater Management Program**

**Action Items** (from this meeting and ongoing)

<b>Name</b>	<b>Task</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Timeframe</b>
TAC members	Conduct focused outreach for new volunteers, especially in the Glen Ellen and Kenwood areas. Continue to spread message about purpose of well monitoring and use of collected data. Need to educate landowners regarding importance of process and protection of their information and data.	Underway	Ongoing
Tim / Marcus	Create follow-up letter to be sent to willing participants to notify them whether their well is suitable for inclusion and provide feedback to TAC volunteers	Underway	Update in July
Tim / Marcus	Create list of potential candidate volunteer wells	Underway	Update in July
Marcus	Research DWR/PRMD records for well logs for volunteer wells with no existing records	Underway	Update in July
DWR (Mark) / Tim	Discuss whether or not any of the already identified volunteer wells may be added to the DWR monitoring effort.	Underway	Done – Review again w/DWR
SCWA	Request PRMD to give presentation to TAC and community on well construction requirements	Pending – need to determine which TAC meeting is best	July TAC
Marcus	Place add in newspaper for water conservation pilot program	Underway	July
Tim	Set up meeting of grant funding group	Underway	July
TAC	Comments on draft WELLness guide	Underway	Done
Clarence	Brief SV CAC on Annual Report	Underway	May-June
Lisa	Brief SEC on Annual Report	Underway	May-June
Marcus	Brief SVVGA on Annual Report	Underway	May-June
TAC	Data gaps to fill on monitoring	Underway	Summer
John G.	Follow up with James regarding possible project	Underway	Summer
TAC	Develop list of possible rainfall harvest projects	Underway	Summer
TAC	Further consider possible community site for pilot	Underway	Summer
TAC	Identify actions and strategy for rainfall harvesting/recharge demonstration/pilots	Started	July

**Meeting Participants**

- James Cannard, private well owner
- Rochelle Campana, private well owner
- Steve Hardister, contractor
- Robert Garant, engineer
- John Guardino, Southern Sonoma County RCD
- Krishna Kumar, VOMWD
- John Macleod, Sonoma Valley Vintners and Growers
- Lisa Micheli, Sonoma Ecology Center
- Kathy Pons, private well owner and monitor
- Joanna Sanders, Sonoma City Council

**Staff**

- Marcus Trotta, Sonoma County Water Agency
- Tim Parker, Parker Groundwater

**Briefing Announcements - Annual Report on the Sonoma Valley GMP**

- Sonoma Valley Alliance was briefed Kathy Pons
- SSCRCD was briefed by John Guardino
- Valley of the Moon Water District was briefed at the June Board Meeting
- The SEC will be briefed at the June SEC Board meeting
- Scheduling in process to brief the SVVGA
- Sonoma Ranch mutual water company will be briefed by Marcus Trotta
- City of Sonoma has not been briefed

**Water Conservation Audit Program**

- Only a handful of the planned residential site water conservation and water use audits have been completed
  - Capacity is 25 residential and five agricultural/winery sites
- Kathy Pons had her site audited
  - Helped her get her landscape irrigation scheduled for the evening
  - Kathy made the point that rural well owners conserve water too
- TAC discussed need to get more audits signed on
  - RCD placed an ad in the local paper
  - One mutual water company sent out the information in the water bill
  - One desired area for audits in north area will be contacted by Carrie
- Krishna Kumar suggested that the TAC consider conservation awards which would be given by the SV BAP – TAC will bring to the next BAP meeting
  - Could also give a lapel pin or sticker as a conserver

**WellNess Guide**

- The WellNess Guide was originally developed by the Sonoma County Department of Health about 5 or more years ago
- The purpose of the guide is to provide the individual rural well owner with a basic understanding of a well, and suggested maintenance and testing practices
- SV TAC is providing input on the guide to bring it up to date, and also to provide a separate insert to the guide which will provide specific information relevant for Sonoma Valley residents

- Doing a video on the subject of wells, groundwater, and water conservation was an idea floated – City of Sonoma is interested and could possibly help support - could get a high school student to do locally -
- TAC will receive guide mark up via email and are to provide comments back to Tim Parker by the end of next week
  - Goal is to provide suggested edits to the guide by the end of June to Sonoma County Health and Permit Resources and Management Department

### **Wine Country Summit**

- Vineyard & winery Management Magazine is holding a wine country water summit  
Location: Sonoma Mountain Village, Rohnert Park, CA  
Date: July 16, 2009  
Time: 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
- Speakers include Paul Kelley, Sonoma County Water Agency Board Member, Grant Davis, SCWA, and Tim Parker
- More information at [http://www.vwm-online.com/events/wine\\_water\\_summit/speakers.asp](http://www.vwm-online.com/events/wine_water_summit/speakers.asp)

### **Update on Rainfall Harvesting and Managed Aquifer Recharge Guide**

- A meeting on rainfall harvesting and managed aquifer recharge resource guide development was held on May 21<sup>st</sup> at 2pm at SCWA to discuss draft approach for the resource guide and to get input from PRMD, County Health, RWQCB, and Santa Rosa and Cotati
  - Resource guide is being prepared to address entire Sonoma County
  - Santa Rosa has rainfall harvesting guidelines which include site inspections – if plumbed into house you need a backflow device and annual inspection; otherwise not required – several pages of information on their webpage
  - Recently several agencies went to a case-by-case basis for determining inspection needs
  - The term “dry well” is not an acceptable term for shallow recharge devices and should be avoided
  - Uniform design and safety standards would be desirable
  - Specific use of harvesting water needs to be clearly identified
- Discussed the need for demonstration and pilot projects for rainfall capture and reuse
  - Steve Hardister and James Cannard suggested there may be an orchard with a possibly willing owner for a demonstration project in the Glenn Ellen area – desire to capture 60 to 70 thousand gallons annually - would also like to reduce erosion – considering HD 20 rated modular cubes buried shallow between geotextile fabric layers for storage and infiltration
- David Ortiz - AP Rainwater Harvesting would be a good to get involved with the TAC to discuss strategic approach to pilot and demonstration projects for the valley
- Need incentives for these projects to be successful on a large scale – perhaps tax incentives could be considered by cities and PRMD – maybe even legislation
- Suggest that a community site might be a good place for a rainfall harvesting and recharge pilot project with community outreach

- City of Sonoma very interested in moving forward with harvesting stormwater peak flows, reducing flood potential and banking groundwater
  - Community Services and Environmental Commission has been discussing
  - Robert Garant is looking into on behalf of City of Sonoma
- Action Items
  - TAC needs to develop a matrix of potential projects for moving the initiative forward
  - Need to also develop a strategic approach and steps to take this concept forward with demonstration and pilot projects, guide development, resource and regulatory involvement

#### **North Bay Watershed IRWMP Recharge Projects Funding**

- SCWA is looking at submitting a proposal for funding for groundwater recharge projects in the county
- Possible funding opportunity includes up to \$500,000 on \$250,000 matching funds
- SCWA looking to identify projects – fits very well with SV GMP and ongoing discussions with the SV TAC on recharge and groundwater banking
- Proposals due in September 2009

#### **Updates on Groundwater Monitoring**

- About a dozen new monitoring locations have been added to the SV GMP this round, some in key data gap areas – two more possible volunteer monitoring wells are being inspected today
- Marcus Trotta instrumented a monitoring well site on 5<sup>th</sup> street with a water level data logger, and aquifer testing was conducted at two wells on 7<sup>th</sup> Street
- A new well is going in on 5<sup>th</sup> Street West near Sonoma Creek just north of the Leveroni properties – additional lithologic data is being collected by SCWA

#### **Next TAC July 8<sup>th</sup> – Focused discussion on rainfall harvesting and groundwater recharge**

**Location: Valley of the Moon Water District, 19039 Bay Street, El Verano**